

QUINNIPIAC LINEAR TRAIL

Wallingford, CT

Wallingford's newest park is the Quin-
ni-
piac River Linear Trail. This 1.25-
mile multi-use trail (2.5 miles to re-
turn to parking area) is predominantly
paved with some gravel areas where
trail construction is still pending. The
first two stages of the trail construc-
tion that have been completed include
a one-mile paved walking, biking, and
skating trail that runs from Commu-
nity Lake through picturesque areas to
the Quin-
ni-
piac River and then extends
through a tunnel under the Wilbur
Cross Parkway.

The trail begins adjacent to the park-
ing area with a trail map display show-
ing both the completed trail and pro-
posed extensions. The trail then
passes by the Community Lake on
your right and goes around the park
on your left. After a 1/4 mile the trail
splits. Take the right junction to con-
tinue on the trail, as the left returns to
the parking area.

A special feature of the park is the Lab-
rynth which will be on the right side of the
trail. Labyrinths are a circular walking
pattern used for meditation or reflection.
Soon after, a stop by the Quin-
ni-
piac River
provides benches for resting. A new iron
bridge takes you over the river where you
come to an intersection. The paved trail
continues left through a tunnel under-
neath Route 15 and ends next to the river.
When the pavement ends, a gravel trail
leads to a few more benches overlooking
the river where the trail ends. Return
back along the trail to the parking area.

In this area of the river, large dams were
used to power the local silver industry,
forming impounded lakes like Hanover
Pond (in Meriden) and Community Lake.
The dam at Community Lake broke in
1979, and the woods and meadow you see
here in the former lakebed support many
new wildlife. Plans are underway to re-
build a smaller lower dam, to partly re-
flood the area, and create new wetlands.



Photo by the Department of Environmental Protection
The Quin-
ni-
piac River Linear Trail is
a multiple-town project. The cross-
town Wallingford portion of the trail
will cover 6.7 miles from north to
south. The park offers recreational
access to all citizens - young and old,
by foot, bike, skates, canoes, strollers,
and wheelchairs. Historically, na-
tive Indian tribes living along the
Quin-
ni-
piac River used its banks to
guide its travel from village to vil-
lage. The Quin-
ni-
piac Linear Trail
linkage and travel way.

Directions and Parking:

Take the Wilbur Cross Parkway
(Route 15) to Exit 65. Take North
Turnpike Road (Route 150) as it
curves southwards. The entrance to
the Community Lake/Linear Trail
parking lot will be on the left just
after crossing over the Wilbur Cross
Parkway. The trail begins next to
the park entrance.

Permitted Activities:

Walking, biking, and skating are al-
low-
ed along the trail. Canoeing is
allowed in the Quin-
ni-
piac River.
Dog are allowed on leash. Please bag
and pick up all dog waste.

For more information about this location, contact:

Town of Wallingford
Public Works Department
(203) 294-2105

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from the National Recreational Trails Pro-
gram, the Federal Highway Administration,
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South Central Regional Council of Governments

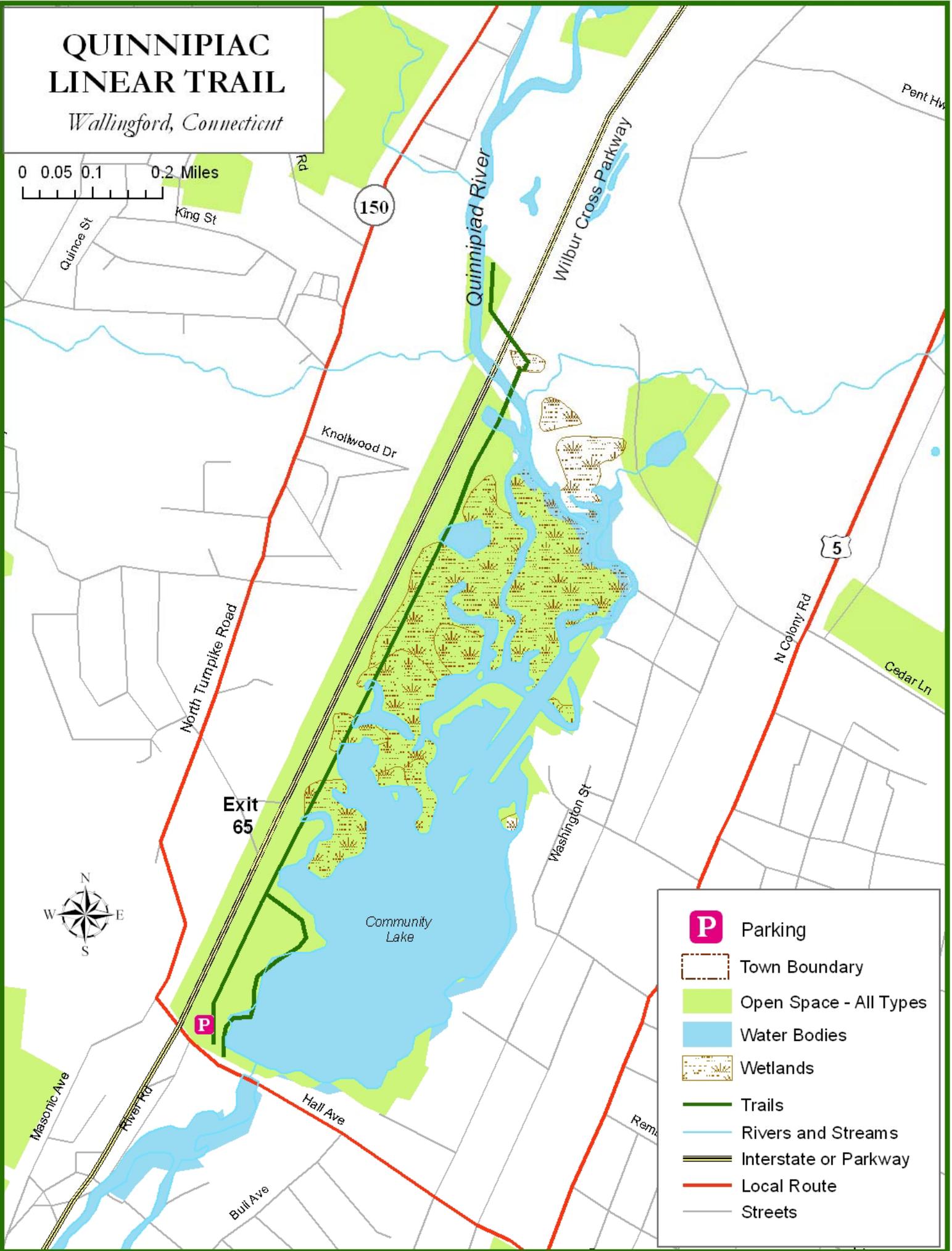
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QUINNIPIAC LINEAR TRAIL

Wallingford, Connecticut

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles



- Parking
- Town Boundary
- Open Space - All Types
- Water Bodies
- Wetlands
- Trails
- Rivers and Streams
- Interstate or Parkway
- Local Route
- Streets